



13th EBS arrives at Andersen, prepares for busy deployment

By Tech. Sgt. Mikal Canfield
Kenney Headquarters Public Affairs

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam,—Aircrew members and support personnel of the 13th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron arrived last week, ready for the opportunities that lie ahead during their two-month deployment to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

The 13th EBS replaces the 393rd EBS, who returned to Whiteman AFB, Mo., July 1 following completion of their deployment.

Both squadrons are deployed here to provide the U.S. Pacific Command commander a continuous bomber presence in the region and help maintain stability and provide security for the Asia-Pacific region.

“The 13th EBS deployed to Andersen to continue the bomber presence in the Pacific,” said Lt. Col. Bill Eldridge, 13th EBS commander. “We replaced the 393rd EBS to allow them to return to Whiteman AFB so they can prepare for an upcoming inspection, and to share the operations tempo.”

While at Andersen, the primary mission of the 13th EBS will be to gain experience flying and generating aircraft from a forward-operating base, added Colonel Eldridge.

“Our training plan includes missions to a nearby bombing range, long-duration sorties throughout the theater, and joint exercises with the 90th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, deployed here flying F-15Es from Elmendorf, Alaska,” he said. “We also are planning some exercises with the Royal Australian Air Force.”

The majority of the squadron’s Airmen arrived June 29-30, and the 13th EBS flew their first sorties July 5. There are challenges involved with flying so soon after arriving, but the squadron is focused on proving they are capable of deploying and flying missions immediately after arriving at a forward-deployed location.

“Employing shortly after deploying is an Air Force specialty,” said Lt. Col. Leonard D’Amico, 13th EBS director of operations. “We generally are ready to fight only hours after arriving at a for-



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mikal Canfield

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam,—Captain Bob Bryant, 13th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron B-2 Spirit pilot, adds notes to a mission planning “grease” board in the bomber operations center at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, July 10. The captain is one of approximately 35 Airmen, from the 13th Bomb Squadron and the 509th Operations Support Squadron from Whiteman who arrived here June 29-30 for a two-month deployment.

ward deployed location. Flying shortly after deploying in peacetime is risky. To reduce the risk, we give our pilots a couple of days to adjust their circadian rhythm before our first flights.”

One of the things the squadron is

looking forward to the most is the opportunity to work with Air Force mission partners also deployed to Andersen: the 90th EFS F-15E personnel aircrew

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442nd welcomes new commander

By Master Sgt. Bill Huntington
442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 442nd Fighter Wing gained its 24th commander in its 62-year history, as Col. Robert Arthur, took over the reins from Col. Pat Cord in a change-of-command ceremony in the wing’s five-bay hangar, Saturday.

Colonel Arthur, former 926th Fighter Wing commander at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, La., accepted the wing flag from Lt. Gen. John Bradley, Chief of Air Force Reserve, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington D.C., and Commander, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., to become wing commander as Colonel Cord departs to fill the 10th Air Force vice commander position at Naval Air Station Joint

Reserve Base Ft. Worth, Texas.

General Bradley, a former 442nd FW commander, lauded the wing for its accomplishments and thanked the assembled Airmen for their role in the ongoing war on terror.

He recognized the fact that the wing had Airmen and aircraft deployed to Afghanistan in their third contingency deployment since Sept. 11, 2001.

The general said he realized much had been asked of them, pointing out that during Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 442nd had been the first Air Force fighter unit to base and operate from occupied territory since World War II. He also noted, however, that he would be calling on the wing again in the future.

Addressing the wing,

Colonel Arthur noted the wing’s history dating back to World War II and recognized its many achievements over the years. He said he looked forward to leading the wing and to the new challenges ahead as it transitions from 15 to 24 aircraft assigned.

As the 442nd FW commander, Colonel Arthur is responsible for the manning, training and combat readiness of approximately 1,200 Air Force reservists at Whiteman and at two geographically separated Reserve units at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., the 610th Intelligence Operations Flight and the 710th Medical Squadron.

Colonel Arthur, a native of Phoenix, Ariz., has logged more than 4,000 flying hours since entering pilot training in 1978.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Barebo



Accepting the 442nd Fighter Wing’s colors from Lt. Gen. Gen John Bradley (left), chief of the Air Force Reserve and commander of the Air Force Reserve Command, Col. Steve Arthur (right) becomes the wing’s 24th commander at a change of command ceremony, Saturday.

SPIRIT TIMES
Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

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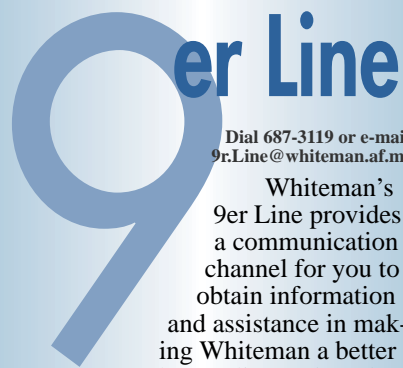
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For more information, call the *Spirit Times* office at 687-6133, e-mail: spirit.times@whiteman.af.mil, fax us at 687-7948, or write to us at: 509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111 Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305

Air Force Quiz

What is the most effective individual protective equipment for a conventional attack? (see answer below)



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The helmet and personal armor

Commander's Comments

By Col. Greg Biscone
509th Bomb Wing commander

Whiteman's new 'mayor'

Today we welcome Whiteman's newest "mayor," Col. Ed Keegan, 509th Mission Support Group commander, to our team.

I say mayor, because being a mission support group commander is like being the person who runs a city or town—and it's his new callsign.

All of the base's infrastructure, communications, security, logistics, services, contracts and mission support organizations fall under the MSG.

He's a proven leader who prior to this assignment was busy managing command and control systems for U.S.

Central Command's Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa.

I know he and his family are excited to be here and that they will help us continue to build excellence in Air Combat Commands' premiere MSG.

Help me make his family part of ours.

24/7 Vigilance

Earlier this week we prepared for a worst-case scenario — terrorists invading our base — this exercised our incident response procedures.

Because we can't predict the future, we must remain vigilant. Our best shot at remaining secure is; first, understanding that we're all "sensors" and, second, taking action by notifying our security forces if you notice something suspicious.

You know best what does or doesn't belong in your neighborhood, in your work area, or on your drive to work, so you'll be able to spot something that doesn't look quite right.

Never before has it been more important for us to safeguard our people, our equipment and our way of life.

Thanks for the assist.

Fast Facts

If you see suspicious activity on or around Whiteman, call the 509th Security Forces Squadron Law Enforcement desk at 687-3700.

Putting the big 'A' in Airpower

By Col. Bob Dulong
509th Maintenance Group Commander

The men and women of the 509th Maintenance Group have adopted a new logo; "We put the "A" in Airpower" along with a new motto "If it's in the air, maintenance put it there."

We believe the teamwork of everyone in the maintenance group and Team Whiteman play a vital role in making the 509th Bomb Wing's mission a success.

In the past year, this teamwork produced some tremendous success stories that prove the quality of work produced by Team Whiteman. Together, we are putting the "A" in airpower.

Last year at this time, we were deployed to the Pacific theater for the bomber forward presence role. Deployment for our weapon system is challenging—if you will recall, the supportability design for the B-2 was to fly and fight from our home station, complete with the fantastic facilities, equipment and supplies we have here.

Deployment caused us to split that fixed supportability package and move selected equipment and supplies to the forward operating location, Guam. The deployment was challenging and we learned some lessons in that deployment to help us better design our deployment supportability package.

The Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team visited Whiteman in November 2005 to evaluate the 509th MXG and 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

The inspectors left knowing Whiteman was the best in Air Combat Command. Major General Ann Harrell, ACC director of aircraft maintenance

and logistics, uses us as her example for other ACC units to emulate.

On several occasions, she stated publicly "the 509th is the best." Later that month, we demonstrated the global power capability of the B-2 when we participated in the Dubai Air Show. Our participation was lauded for reminding would-be adversaries of the power in our arsenal.

Early in 2006, Team Whiteman was the core unit for Red Flag 06-1 exercise. Once again, our results were nothing short of amazing.

As the lead wing, we led 133 aircraft from the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy and allied forces to the successful orchestration of 1,194 sorties. Our intense planning produced these successes and demonstrated the dominance of the B-2 weapon system in current airpower applications. The exercise depended on our participation and success—we are the center of the airpower universe. Pretty impressive.

Currently, Team Whiteman is again forward deployed to the Pacific theater—Andersen Air Base, Guam—for the bomber forward presence mission.

Maj. Kelly Scott, 509th Maintenance Operations Squadron commander, and 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, is leading our maintenance force to unprecedented successes.

He and his team of maintenance professionals have produced two consecutive months with a 75 percent mission capable rate. Many factors contribute to this success, but, their pre-planning that included the lessons learned from last years deployment certainly helped get them off to a great start.



Courtesy photo

Col. Bob Wheeler, 509th Operations Group commander, display his new hair cut July 5 to members of the 509th Maintenance Group members that are deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

Col. Bob Wheeler, 509th Operations Group commander and 36th Expeditionary Operations Group commander, noted the pride and workmanship our people have poured into their deployed fleet. He graciously offered Major Scott's team the opportunity to shave his hair off "if they produced a 75 percent mission capable rate for June, their second consecutive month."

Naturally, our maintainers accepted this challenge and worked their magic to produce the winning rate. They all admire and respect Colonel Wheeler for his appreciation of the maintainers.

On July 5, they respectfully held him to his incentive—the hair shaving exposition was conducted in Hangar One at Guam with an audience of proud maintainers. He is as proud of our B-2 team as the rest of our senior staff here at Whiteman and he was glad to offer this incentive for the troops' hard work.

ACC continues to take notice of our performance, and General Harrell continues to lavish praise on Team Whiteman.

Just last week, in an e-mail message addressed to

Gen. Ronald Keys, ACC commander, she stated, "we are really proud of the 509th. They took a challenging situation which might have overwhelmed other units, and not only made a comeback, but has set the bar higher than ever for this national asset."

Her statement is a testament to the quality of work produced and the teamwork evident throughout Team Whiteman.

The synergy of the family members supporting us, the medics keeping us ready and able, the security forces defending us, logisticians supplying us with needed parts, Northrop Grumman supporting us, and everyone else doing what you do on a daily basis, makes the 509th MXG and the 509th Bomb Wing successful.

An unknown author said, "teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."

If you look at our past and present performances, you can plainly see that the 509th BW has been producing uncommon results for quite some

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Newsline

Spirit Tour set today

Everyone that has base access can bring family and friends to see the B-2 from 10:45 a.m.-noon today in front of base operations.

All participants are required to sign their guests on base.

For more information, call public affairs at 687-6123.

Spirit gate construction underway

Construction began at the Spirit Gate Thursday and is scheduled to last until Aug. 6.

There are several projects that the 509th Civil Engineering Squadron will be overseeing to enhance the base's force protection measures and increase the safety of base personnel and assets.

These upgrades will include the realignment of the center median along Spirit Blvd. to provide two lanes of traffic in both directions.

A new walking path from the north to the south of Spirit Blvd. will also be constructed.

This new walkway will provide increased safety for children traveling to Whiteman Elementary School, the youth center and other buildings in that area.

Please consider using alternate gates during construction. Be alert for directions provided by traffic safety personnel.

Also, drivers are reminded to follow all posted signs and speed limits.

For more information, contact Gary Hall, 509th CES, at 687-6281.

Firing range safety

Trespassing is prohibited on any of the Combat Arms ranges on base. Trespassing is not only illegal but dangerous due to weapons firing.

The 40mm grenade range is located on the east side of the base adjacent to highway D. The rifle, pistol, shotgun and machine gun ranges are located behind building 1236.

If entry must be made during duty hours contact combat arms at 687-5124, during non-duty hours contact Tech. Sgt. William Duft, 509th Security Forces Squadron at 661-373-3082.

Secretary Rumsfeld visits Balad AB



Photo by Airman 1st Class Andrew Oquendo

Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr. walks with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld as the secretary arrives at Balad Air Base, Iraq, Wednesday. Secretary Rumsfeld is visiting Iraq to talk with servicemembers. General Casey is commanding general of Multi-National Forces in Iraq.

'Cowboy Crush' to give base members free concert

Story by Staff Sgt. Jason Barebo

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The up and coming country group Cowboy Crush is scheduled to perform a free concert open to all military members, contract civilians and their family members with access to Whiteman at the 442nd Hanger Sunday beginning at 6 p.m.

Cowboy Crush began their career at the Wild Horse in Nashville, Tenn. October 2003, where a single performance led to approximately 50 bookings by the end of the night.

The all-female quintet has opened for several well-known country music

artists, such as Travis Tritt, Trace Adkins and Lonestar. Cowboy Crush released their first single, "Nobody Ever Died of a Broken Heart," May 2005.

The concert is made possible by the Spirit of America Tour, a project of the Robert and Nina Rosenthal Foundation, Inc., a California non-profit corporation.

The Spirit of America Tour is based solely on donation of time from major artists and entertainers who wish to help boost and maintain the morale of the members of the Armed Forces and their families.

Seating is limited and guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs for this event.



Courtesy photo

Members of the all-female country music group "Cowboy Crush" wave to the crowd after a performance. Cowboy Crush will play here Sunday as part of the Spirit of America Tour

Second phase of NSPS begins in October

WASHINGTON (AFPN) The Defense Department announced plans Thursday to transfer more than 66,000 additional DOD civilian employees into the new National Security Personnel System beginning in October.

The plan, delivered to Congress earlier this week, ushers in the second phase in implementing the new pay-for-performance personnel system and affects organizations throughout DOD.

The first 11,000 DOD civilian employees were converted to the new system under "Spiral 1.1" of the phase-in on April 30. Defense officials are taking cues from this group to help smooth the way for the "Spiral 1.2" transition.

Mary Lacey, NSPS program executive officer, recently met with senior leaders from the Spiral 1.1 transition to identify what worked well and what improvements are needed.

"We are already assessing implementation for the first group of employees," she said.

The transition for the first group ran smoothly. Officials

reported a 99.9 percent accuracy rate in completing affected employees' personnel actions and no glitches in processing their pay through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

"We are pleased with what we are seeing thus far, at least with the technical aspects of the conversion," Ms. Lacey said.

The Spiral 1.2 roll-in will take place over a four-month period through January 2007, and will include civilian employees from organizations throughout DOD, including some overseas.

Affected components will have the discretion to convert their workforce any time between October 2006 and January 2007 to ensure enough time to train their employees, Ms. Lacey said.

"Training is critical to the successful transition to NSPS," she said. "We want to give organizations sufficient time to train employees, do it right and implement when they are ready."

Ultimately, the system will apply to more than 650,000 DOD civilian employees.

Employees being con-

verted to the new system will receive new performance plans that are clearly linked to their organization's mission and strategic goals. They also will be converted to pay bands that replace the grade ratings under the general schedule.

Officials emphasized that no employee will lose pay during the conversion to NSPS. Most will receive an initial pay bump to account for time already earned toward their next within-grade increase.

A conversion tool in the NSPS 101 course, posted on the NSPS Web site, helps employees estimate of the value of their within-grade-increase, as well as their career group and pay band under the new system.

The performance appraisal cycle for Spiral 1.2 employees will begin on the actual day of their conversion to NSPS and continue through Sept. 30, 2007. These employees will receive their first performance pay increase in January 2008.

The ongoing NSPS conversion includes only the human resources parts of the system, which include job classification, compensation, performance management, staffing and workforce-shaping elements.

It does not include ele-

ments of the new system involving labor relations, collective bargaining, independent third-party review, adverse actions and the National Security Labor Relations Board.

DOD and the Office of Personnel Management have appealed a late February court decision blocking implementation of these provisions. U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan ruled that they would fail to protect civilian employees' ability to bargain collectively.

The decision was based on a lawsuit filed by the American Federation of Government Employees and 12 other labor unions.

Defense officials hope for a decision on the appeal by the year's end as they continue implementing parts of the new personnel system not caught up in litigation.

"NSPS is critical to the department's transformation to a results-oriented, mission-focused culture," said Michael Dominguez, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "The performance-based system will create an environment where our employees will be focused on outcomes that support our national security mission, and they will be rewarded for the results."

509th MSS gets new commander

Lt. Col. Lisa Moshier, 509th Mission Support Squadron commander, assumed command from Lt. Col. Lindsey Borg during a change-of-command ceremony June 29.

Previous assignment: Headquarters U.S. Air Force A1 Staff, Pentagon

Time in service: 24 years

Commissioning source: Air Force ROTC, University of South Florida

Family: Three cats live with me, and my Aunt and Uncle live in Florida

Hobbies: Reading, scuba diving, German shepherds and traveling

How does the squadron contribute to the Air Force mission?

The 509th MSS is devoted to meeting the human resource needs of the Air Force's most expensive weapon system – Airmen and their families. Coupled with the 509th Bomb Wing staff agencies, we are a very formidable Team Whiteman partner for national defense.

Command philosophy: Find the energy, make the time for people. Pay 'attention to the details' of people and build a strong team – that team will pay attention to the details of mission.

Goals for new position: Aggressively manage the risk of the next two years of Force Shaping and restructuring to ensure a leaner, meaner, more lethal 509th BW.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Joan Andersen-Brown

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time.

Our teamwork has been called on to (literally) change the world more than once, and we must continue to work together so we are ready to do it again when our nation calls. Part of our team is constantly looking ahead to make sure we are ready to do just that.

In the same e-mail sent to COMACC, General Harrell pushed for the standup of a new signature diagnostics flight. Less than 72-hours later, we were approved to standup this new flight.

This flight will allow us to further enhance the B-2's technological prowess and take tools currently used by engineers and transform them into tools for our Airmen.

This push from the staff, coupled with strong teamwork from the system program office at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, the system sustainment manager at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., and Northrop Grumman will transform the way we do low observable maintenance—moving our processes from a visually-based assessment system to a scientific, tool-based approach.

This team is also constantly searching for newer technologies and materials to bring to bear to help us better maintain our advanced technology platform.

Henry Ford once said in regards to teamwork, “coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” Team Whiteman, we have, and must continue to work together to be successful for our nation. Your senior staff is very proud of the contributions you make to our Air Force.

Together, we put the “A” in Airpower.

82 Whiteman members promoted in July

Eighty-two Whiteman members received their stripes during a promotion ceremony July 5 at Missions End. They are:



AIRMEN

Travis Foster, 393rd Bomb Squadron
Cassandra Montgomery, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Justin James and Nicholas Johnson, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron
Daniel Blackmore, 509th Contracting Squadron
Dustin Chandler, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Amanda Pantridge, 509th Operations Support Squadron
Crystal Koelbl and David West, 509th Security Forces Squadron
Brittany Moore, 509th Services Squadron



AIRMEN 1ST CLASS

Valerie Barron, 509th Bomb Wing
Harry Sayandiaz, 509th CES

Jessica Winchell and Jacob Worden, 509th Comptroller Squadron
Lester Conner and Cara Vandezandschulp, 509th LRS
Nicole Potterfield, 509th Medical Operations Squadron
Graham Hintz, 509th OSS
Samuel Bryant, Jorge Inclan, Steven Lutes, Christopher Minter, Chasin Tullis and Roger Zamora, 509th SFS



SENIOR AIRMEN

Mark Geist, Christopher Gheen, Adam Liller, Christopher Moutos and Dominique Nevers, 509th AMXS
Jamie Feldhacker, 509th BW
Joseph Mihalko, 509th CES
Chiquita Ferdinand, Samuel Lake, Lauren Padden and Christopher Vincent, 509th Communications Squadron
Ashley Hatfield, Fauzia Khan and Kaylie Scott, 509th LRS
Adam Griph, Nathan Iverson, David Maskowski, Joshua Montambeault, Ryan Moudy, Heath Noe and Tony Seymore, 509th Maintenance Squadron
Thomas Joseph, James Leigh and

Juan Robles, 509th Munitions Squadron
Jason Bauer and Joseph Berry, 509th SFS



STAFF SERGEANTS

Keola Baclayon, Christopher Camerer, Bradley Dugan and Sean Miller, 509th AMXS
Jason Barebo, 509th BW
Brian Collier, Casandra Curtis, William Knight, and Jimmy Roberts 509th CES
Thomas Williamson, 509th Maintenance Group
Louis Kane, Jennifer Stewart and Kimberley White, 509th MUNS
William Abell, Leif Gisselberg and Timothy Schultz, 509th SFS



TECHNICAL SERGEANTS

Shawn Coots, 394th Combat Training Squadron
Michael Becker and Joshua

Flaherty, 509th CES
Craig Beare, 509th LRS
Andrew Earll, 509th MXG
Joseph Allen, 509th MXS
Jessica Despot, 509th MOS
Robert Kidd, 509th OSS
David Farrell, 72nd Test And Evaluation Squadron
Katherine Marksmeier, Area Defense Council



MASTER SERGEANTS

Kari Miller, 509th AMXS
Brian Remmert, 509th CS
Bret Frank, 509th MXG
John Kelley, 509th MXS



SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Klaus Dannenberg, 509th CES
Charles Davis, 509th MXS

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members deployed here from Elmendorf and Air National Guard KC-135 air refueling aircraft.

"We can learn a lot from the F-15E crews because they employ nearly every weapon in the Air Force inventory and maintain proficiency in a variety of missions," said Colonel Eldridge. "From our previous deployments, we learned a lot about the importance of air refueling. Because there are so few airfields in the region, we plan our fuel very carefully. We depend on the tankers to get the mission done."

As with any deployment, two months at Andersen won't be free of challenges and obstacles to overcome. Colonel Eldridge said the 13th EBS will benefit from being the second squadron of B-2s to deploy.

"The 393rd EBS paved the way for our successful deployment," said Colonel D'Amico. "The second squadron always benefits from the work of the previous units. Their work allowed us to shorten our advon time and to fly soon after arriving in theater.

"Not everything went as planned, but Capt. Jason Ceminsky (13th EBS C Flight commander) 'led through' all of our challenges and did an outstanding job ensuring the logistics went smoothly," added Colonel Eldridge.

Colonel Eldridge said the biggest challenge during this deployment may be the weather, as typhoon season typically arrives in late summer and as a result, the squadron may lose training sorties. For

this, he believes the maintainers of the 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron will save the day.

"Our maintenance has been fantastic and they will likely generate extra sorties to make up for any lost flying days," he added. "We couldn't fly a single sortie without the support of our outstanding maintenance personnel."

The 36th EAMXS maintenance Airmen -- who have been here since April and will remain for the final two months of the B-2 deployment -- look forward to working with the newly-arrived aircrew members.

"We're used to working with both squadrons at our home station, so the transition from the 393rd to the 13th is an easy one for us," said Master Sgt. Kelly Costa, 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron lead production superintendent. "We're not as familiar with the 13th EBS aircrew personnel because they just arrived, but all of our maintainers are looking forward to working with them and continuing the great work we've been doing here at Andersen since our arrival in April."

The B-2 aircraft, aircrew members and support personnel -- from the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman -- are part of the continuing rotational bomber presence to provide the U.S. Pacific Command commander a continuous bomber presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

The B-2s are scheduled to remain at Andersen AFB through early September.

Fish out of water



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Barebo

Carol Welch, a commissary employee, stocks fresh fish in the meat department of the commissary. Fresh fish is a new item being stocked and will be on a trial basis for three to four months, said Tommie McDuffy, commissary meat manager. Like all meat, fish has a limited shelf life and if the product is not purchased within five days it must be discarded, Mr. McDuffy added. The commissary has stocked fresh fish in the past, but demand was low and the product was discontinued. "If the demand (for fresh fish) is high, then we plan to keep stocking fish," Mr. McDuffy said. There are several varieties of fish that can be ordered and special orders are available at low cost, he said. For more information on special orders, contact the commissary at 687-5655.



(Editor's note: Whiteman's natural resource planner, Neil Bass, answers questions about the plants and animals of Whiteman Air Force Base and the surrounding area.)

By Neil Bass

509th Civil Engineer Squadron

Question: While out walking our dog last week my wife and I saw a fox in our neighborhood, on the next evening while walking our dog near a fencerow of trees we heard some strange sounds, some growling coming from the trees.

Should we be scared of being attacked by the fox or should we worry about our dog being attacked while we are walking it or when it is confined at home?

Answer: The short simple answer to this is, no.

Under normal circumstances the fox will avoid you, your dog and other pets for that matter.

Some instances where this is not the case would be if you or your pet were harassing the fox, surprised it and had it cornered where it could not escape.

Another example would be if the animal had rabies. This can happen but is very rare and there is no indication that there is an outbreak of rabies in this area.

There are two types of fox that can be found in our area. The most common is the red fox, which have dens located around base.

The other is the gray fox. I have never seen any gray fox on the base. Gray fox are smaller than red fox and have a salt and pepper coloration. They also readily

climb trees to both hunt and to hide away from predators.

As for the growling noise, most likely this growling noise was done by raccoons. Sometimes raccoons fight over territory or during the breeding season they can be heard growling.

Like the foxes raccoons are not going to attack anyone or their pets under normal circumstances.

Question: Can I eat the fish out of the base lakes?

Answer: All fish caught in Skelton Lake are safe for consumption. Missouri statewide restrictions should still be observed. The only fish found on base with restrictions is the large mouth bass.

Women who are pregnant, could become pregnant and children under 12 should not eat large mouth bass larger than 12 inches. This restriction is in place for all waters in the state of Missouri not just those on base.

The North Lake, located near the water tower, has a catch and release restriction on it. This is because of an AFFF release in the lake about nine years ago. Most likely there is nothing wrong with the fish, but just to be cautious the restriction remains in place.

The newer lake just north of the North Lake has no fishing limitations other than the statewide caution on large mouth bass mentioned above.

Other questions on the plants and animals of Whiteman Air Force Base and the surrounding area can

be addressed by contacting Neil Bass, natural resource planner, at 687-2014 or e-mail at neil.bass@whiteman.af.mil.



Red Fox



Grey Fox



Largemouth Bass

Mission to Washington

By Staff Sgt. Jason Barebo
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Taking a trip to Washington, D.C., can be interesting enough. Top that with being an Airman accompanying the base commander and the command chief master sergeant of Whiteman and things can start to get pretty exciting.

Airman 1st Class James Hale, a vehicle operator with the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, was given this opportunity recently when he was selected to accompany Col. Greg Biscone, 509th Bomb Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Vicki Orcutt, 509th Bomb Wing command chief master sergeant, for a military construction meeting with several government officials, including Congressmen Ike Skelton, 4th District of Missouri.

Chief Orcutt said that the selection of Airman Hale was based on his recent deployment in Iraq, high recommendations from his supervisor and that he is a native of Missouri. Chief Orcutt also added that she was impressed with a briefing that Airman Hale gave April 8 to the Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Mosley concerning the M1117 Armored Security Vehicle the 509th Security Forces Squadron received.

The decision to invite an Airman along for the trip came from Colonel Biscone, said Chief Orcutt. Colonel Biscone has invited Airmen to accompany him on business

before during his time at Minot Air Force Base, N.D.

The trip is an annual event that will include another Airman. Colonel Biscone and Chief Orcutt hope to make the inclusion of an Airman on the trip permanent before they leave here, Chief Orcutt said.

Chief Orcutt added that the annual trip is a great opportunity for Airmen to see all the history found in Washington, D.C., and is also an excellent way for senior leadership to recognize Airmen and say thank you for their hard work and contributions to the mission of the 509th Bomb Wing and the Air Force.

"It was very cool to be around Colonel Biscone and Chief Orcutt," Airman Hale said, adding that both were very personable.

The two-day trip began June 12 as Chief Orcutt and Airman Hale arrived at their hotel. Later that evening, the two met with Colonel Biscone to do some sightseeing. They began with a visit to the Arlington National Cemetery to watch the changing of the guard. The group then had dinner at ESPN Zone where Airman Hale and Colonel Biscone exchanged "war" stories.

Airman Hale spoke with Colonel Biscone and Chief Orcutt of his time and experience as part of the 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group's 2632nd Detachment, which provided convoy protection between 19 Forward Operating Bases in Iraq and six in Kuwait.

Airman Hale also spoke of how much he



enjoyed the Air Force and how interesting his deployment in Iraq was for him.

Colonel Biscone, in turn, shared his experience as a pilot and a commander in deployed locations. Colonel Biscone has flown the B-2 over Iraq and has also commanded expeditionary B-52 squadrons in operations Desert Storm and Enduring Freedom.

The rest of the evening was spent taking in the sites such as the National Mall, the World War II Memorial, the Reflecting Pool, the Vietnam Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial and the Korean War Memorial, Airman Hale said.

"I was very glad to see these sites," he said. "I had always wanted to see these national monuments."

The next day was filled with official business. The bulk of the day was spent seeing how the "wheels of politics" turn, as Airman Hale put it.

The group met with Congressman Ike Skelton for lunch followed by a visit with an

associate representing Senator Talent. Senator Talent himself was unavailable.

Airman Hale said, the majority of discussion involved updates on our Airman and base as well as potential new military construction opportunities at Whiteman. Congressman Skelton did briefly discuss with Airman Hale his time in the Air Force and his experience overseas.

Airman Hale mentioned that while he wasn't an active participant in many discussions, it was interesting to see just how the political "wheels" turn.

At the end of the day, Chief Orcutt and Airman Hale were given time to discuss the changes the Air Force is undergoing. The two discussed how more recently Airmen have been involved in more close combat roles and are moving away from the "chair force" stereotype.

"Being given the opportunity to [see the sites] with my wing commander and command chief was an experience I will not forget," Airman Hale said.

Rules of engagement set for political participation

By Staff Sgt. Jeremy Larlee

Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — Political freedom is something the military has defended since the founding of the United States.

But, while free to participate in the political process, there are some rules military members need to know.

“Our main job is to follow the orders that come down our chain of command, which has an elected official at the top,” said Maj. Frank Minogue, chief of civil law for Air Education and Training Command at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

“It would undermine our whole command structure if it appeared that the Air Force was supporting one side, or candidate, over another,” Major Minogue said.

The November 2006 elections are fast approaching and will decide all 435 House of Representative seats, 33 of the 100 Senate seats and 36 state governors, along with numerous other state and local elections across the country.

It is vital that military members do not give the perception that the military supports one political party, issue or candidate over another, Major Minogue said.

Political activity rules are listed in Air Force Instruction 51-902, Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force. Violators of this instruction can be punished under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and receive up to two years confinement and a dishonorable discharge, the major said.

Examples of prohibited activities listed in the instruction include attending a political event in uniform, using official authority to interfere with an election and affect its

course or outcome, and using contemptuous words against officials in public office. Military members are allowed to attend political events in civilian clothes but only as a spectator. Speaking publicly at these events is not allowed in or out of uniform.

There also is a separation in the rules about participating in partisan and nonpartisan political activities. The rules tend to be stricter for partisan politics, the instruction states.

Partisan politics are defined in the instruction as an “activity supporting or relating to candidates who represent, or issues specifically identified with, national or state political parties or associated or ancillary organizations. A candidacy, declared or undeclared, for national or state office is a partisan political activity, even if

the candidate is not affiliated with a national or state political party.”

Partisan politics generally refer to established political parties and political positions on the national scale.

These rules are not in place to restrict a military member’s political freedoms, the major said.

“Obviously we want people to vote and express their opinions,” Major Minogue said. “People are encouraged to participate in the political process, just not as representatives of the Air Force.”

It is crucial that Airmen remain neutral, said Richard Peterson, deputy chief of the administrative law division, in the office of the Air Force judge advocate general.

“Regardless of whom the American public chooses, we give our elected officials our best efforts and support in performing our duties,” Mr. Peterson said.

Contact the local legal office for more information about the instruction.

Fast Facts

For more information about political activity rules, visit www.epublishing.af.mil/search.asp?keyword=51-902, to read Air Force Instruction 51-902, Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force.

Team Whiteman Community

Free concert offered for base members

The all-female country music group, Cowboy Crush, will perform a free concert for DOD cardholders 6 p.m. July 16 in the 442nd 5-Bay hangar as part of the Spirit of America Tour. Seating is limited and lawn chairs are welcome.

BUNCO offered by ESC

Come and join the Enlisted Spouse's club for a night of fun and prizes. The event will take place from 7-9 p.m. July 21 from at Mission's End.

R.S.V.P. to Tabitha Pleasants at 563-4145 or tabithapleasants@hotmail.com.

Couple communication seminar offered

The Airman and family readiness center will be offering a couples communication seminar from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 28. It is designed for those in a good dating or marital relationship. The seminar will focus on communication, and keeping friendship and intimacy in a relationship.

R.S.V.P. by July 24 to Jeannine Johnson at 687-5520 or e-mail her at jeannine.johnson@whiteman.af.mil.

Education

Call the base education center at 687-5750 for more details on these events.

Cost of College

Two-thirds of undergraduate students graduate with some debt, and the average federal student loan debt among graduating seniors is \$19,202.

Graduate and professional students borrow even more, with the additional debt for a graduate degree ranging from \$27,000 to \$114,000.

Active-duty Airmen and officers do not have to incur this tremendous debt. The Air Force gives you \$4,500 per year in tuition assistance toward your degree.

Call the education center at 687-5750 or visit Bldg. 145.

What's the value of a CCAF degree

To the student, a degree increases self-esteem, improves job performance and aids in transition to the civilian job market.

It adds value to the Air Force by enhancing the competence of enlisted members, builds better leaders, encourages personal responsibility and aids in retaining quality Air Force personnel.

These degrees also add value to the nation by improving the partnership with American higher education, it initiates

enlisted personnel to college level-courses and increases interest in attending public and private institutions.

To find out more about the Community College of the Air Force, call the education center at 687-5750 or visit Bldg. 145.

Family Readiness

Call 687-7132 for more details on these Airman and family readiness center activities.

Pre-retirement briefing set

A pre-retirement briefing for people retiring from the military begins at 8 a.m. Monday. For more information, call the military personnel flight at 687-1500 or 687-6720.

DTAP Program for those with service connected disabilities

A Briefing by a Veteran Affairs counselor will target military members separating due to a service connected disability; those being medically discharged; and those who suspect they have a service connected disability. The briefing will be 12:30 p.m. Monday and reservations are required.

WIC representative visits base

A WIC representative is available beginning at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and

Thursday. WIC includes nutrition education, health promotion and a supplemental food program to help women, infants and children who have nutritional needs. For more details, call the WIC office in Warrensburg at 747-2012.

Class helps new parents

Expectant parents can gain information and resources at the Bundles for Babies class at 8 a.m. Tuesday. Participants will receive free Time Life books and layette bundles. Reservations are required.

Pre-deployment briefing set

A mandatory pre-deployment briefing for people who are deploying or going on a temporary duty assignment for more than 30 days begins at 1 p.m. Wednesday.

This briefing covers information about preparing for deployment and programs available to family members who are left behind. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Party for Family Members

There will be a free pool party for family members of deployed or remote personnel at the base pool 6 p.m. Thursday.

Reservations are required by close of business today. Call 687-7132 to make a reservation.

Chest salad

By Capt. Tony Wickman

71st Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

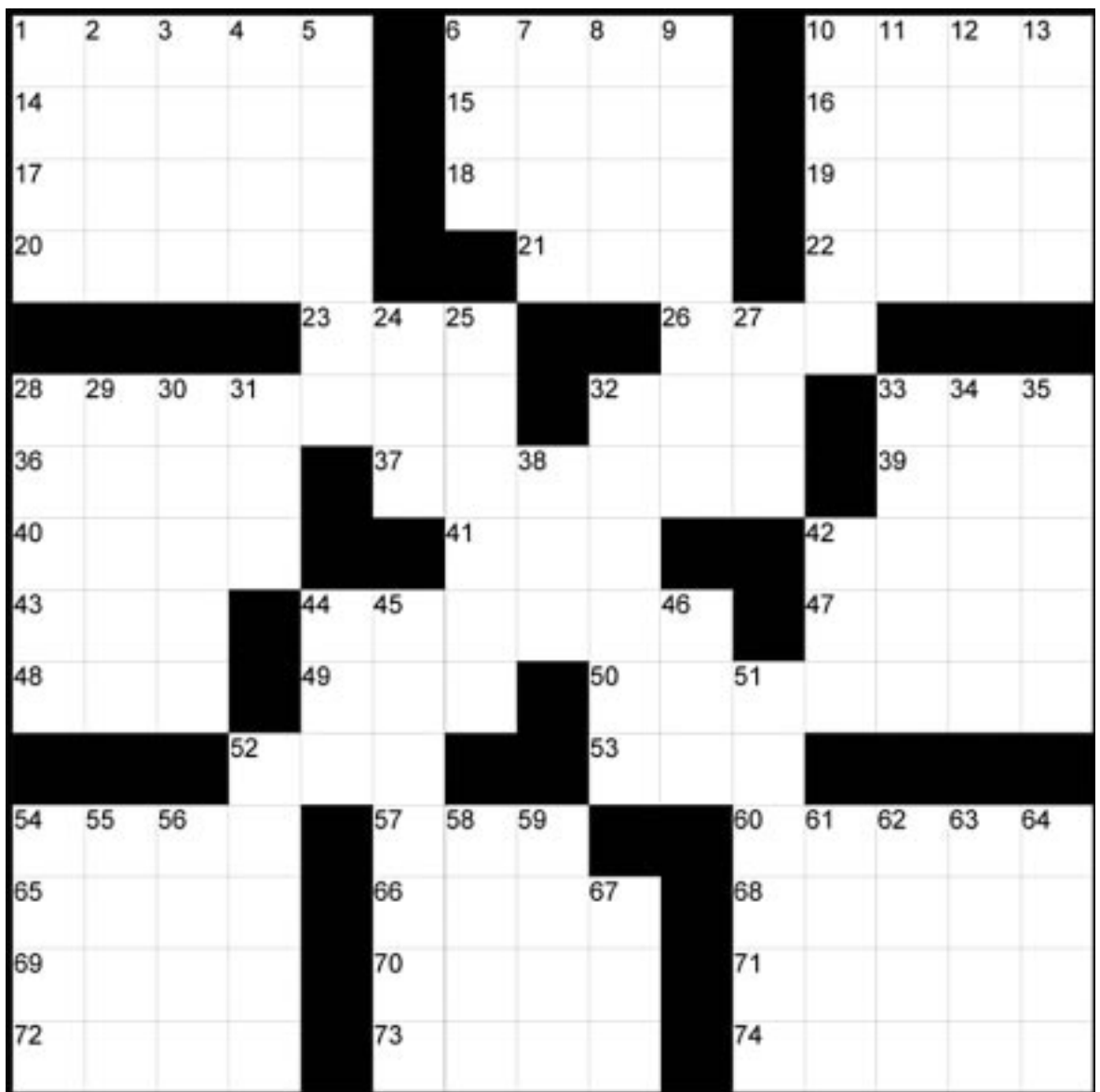
Across

1. USAF officer promotion category
6. Greek letters
10. Browse
14. Scent
15. Floor unit
16. Papa New Guinea currency
17. Legion of ____
18. Oracle
19. Much
20. Singer LaBelle
21. Gun the motor
22. Nevada town
23. Crypto org.
26. Taxing org.
28. San Diego player
32. The Name of the Rose writer Umberto
33. Bone
36. Vestment
37. Poured out emotions
39. Mining goal
40. Chalcedony gemstone
41. ____ Medal
42. Recent Expeditionary or Service medal, in short
43. USAF PME
44. Foolhardy
47. Harangue
48. 12th graders, in short
49. Spy org.
50. Korean ____ Service Medal
52. Respectful address
53. Mistake
54. ____ Campaign Medal
57. Medal above 41 ACROSS, in short
60. ____ Forces Expeditionary Medal
65. Restaurant's food list

66. Smallest unit of an element
68. Female relative
69. Mexican pol-mil leader Antonio López de Santa ____
70. Zilch
71. Lake transport
72. Track competition
73. Lake denizen
74. African antelope

Down

1. Gangplank
2. Vicinity
3. Law
4. Radiate
5. Purpose for using Carbon-14
6. Time to go for USAF member
7. Bracket
8. Away from the wind
9. National Defense ____ Medal
10. Silver or Bronze medals
11. USS ____; US Navy ship attacked in Yemen
12. Forever and a day
13. ____ Medal—Former Republic of Yugoslavia
24. Observe
25. Fleet of ships
27. Shaft
28. Air Force or Distinguished Flying ____
29. Medal of ____
30. Chasm
31. My Fair Lady actor Harrison
32. Web-based stock brokering
33. Deciduous European tree
34. Actor Jeremy
35. Academy Award winner Davis
38. NCOIC's boss
42. Graduate exam
44. AT&T competitor



Turn to Page 9 for the answers to this week's crossword

45. ____ Medal
46. Each
51. European nation
52. Stoop low
54. Islamic holy man
55. French mathematician

- Descartes
56. Queen ____; last Stuart monarch
58. Store up
59. ____ Lisa
61. Iranian currency

62. American Pie actress Suvari
63. School subj.
64. Title
67. Cuba Gooding, Jr. film ____ of Honor

FAMILY ALBUM



Luke Carter, son of Capt. Luke and Alicia Jayne, was born May 17, and weighed 8 pounds and 14 ounces.



Macy Elisabeth, daughter of Master Sgt. Matthew and Staff Sgt. Meredith Fekkers, was born May 20, and weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces.



Gavin Kyler, son of Airman 1st Class Michael and Amber Hall, was born June 5, and weighed 7 pounds and 3 ounces.



Caroline Helen, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Alan and Angie Reed, was born June 25, and weighed 7 pounds and 4 ounces.



Tyler Ryan, son of Staff Sgts. Jacob and Jennifer Brown, was born July 1, and weighed 6 pounds and 6 ounces.

Photo unavailable

Kieran Kicholas, son of Staff Sgts. Daniel and Barbi Tuers, was born June 16, and weighed 6 pounds and 2 ounces.

About the family album

The family album normally runs around the last issue of the *Spirit Times* every month.

Parents interested in placing a newborn's photo in the *Spirit Times* can either submit a non-copyrighted photo or have a photo taken 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays in Bldg. 509, Suite 111.

For more details, e-mail spirit.times@whiteman.af.mil or call 687-6133.

Don't miss out on TRICARE benefits

Parents of newborns or adopted children must register them in the Defense Eligibility Reporting System no later than 120 days after the event to receive TRICARE Prime benefits. To do this, the sponsor must take a copy of the child's birth certificate or adoption papers to the military personnel flight customer service section. After enrolling in DEERS, parents can get TRICARE enrollment forms at the 509th Medical Group TRICARE Service Center or at <http://www.triwest.com>. To get one by mail, call 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378).





Services Page editor.....Poppy Arthurton
509th Services Squadron.....687-7929
*No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Today
Teen Friday night flicks

Friday night flicks kicks off tonight at 6 p.m. at the teen center. The cost is \$1 for members. Call 687-5819 for details.

Free karaoke
Free karaoke will take place 9 p.m.-1 a.m. at Mission's End.

Saturday
Katy Trail ride

Join outdoor recreation in a ride along the Katy Trail with the journey from Rocheport to Wilton, Mo., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Outdoor recreation will provide a bike and helmet for free if necessary. The cost of transportation is \$7. Bring plenty of water and a packed lunch along with a puncture repair kit.

Walk on the wild side
Enjoy a guided tour of Whiteman's wildflowers, 9:30 a.m.-noon starting at the Community Center. The event is free and don't forget your camera.

Super soaker Saturday!
Get ready to get soaked with sprinklers, water balloons and super soakers with the youth center. Children ages 9 to 12 can join in noon-5 p.m. at the base lake. The cost is \$3 for members and \$4 for nonmembers.

Runge Nature Center
Teens can join a trip to Runge Nature Center in Jefferson City, Mo., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The nature center features exhibits, a library, gift shop, aquarium and wildlife viewing area with five hiking trails. The trip costs \$3 for members, \$4 for nonmembers.

Sunday
Cowboy Crush
Free concert



Free live music from Nashville's unique band - Cowboy Crush. This five-member band will perform in their high energy, sassy style at 6 p.m. July 16 at the 442nd hangar as part of the Spirit of America Tour. Active duty, Reserve, guard, retired military, DOD and contract civilians and their families are invited to this special concert. Lawn chairs are welcome as seating is limited. To find out more, visit their Web site www.cowboycrush.com.

6th Annual Build a Boat Competition

(@ the base swimming pool)

July 21, 2006
5:30pm-8pm

Schedule of Events:
5:30-6pm Sign-ups
6:15pm Boat building begins
6:45pm Boat building ends
7-7:30pm Ship Sailing
7:30-8pm Awards

Prizes awarded for
Best Sinking, Fastest Ship,
and Most Team Spirit
(Decorations and
Costumes encouraged
but not required)

Cardboard and duct tape
provided for the boat building.

Contestants 16 years or
younger **MUST** be
accompanied by an adult.

Contact the Community
Center prior to the
competition for rules
and safety guidelines.

Only \$2
per person!
(Minimum of 5
people per team)

For more services info: www.whitemanservices.com
687-5617

Monday
Sundae bar
Celebrate National Ice Cream Day with the ultimate sundae. Construct it yourself at Mission's End, 3-5 p.m. The cost is \$1 for members and \$3 for nonmembers.

Dentokan karate
Improve your self-discipline, strength, flexibility and focus with karate instruction 4-5 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday at the community center. The cost is \$30 for members, \$40 for nonmembers per month (eight sessions).

Tuesday
Texas Hold'em
Show off your skill with the monthly Texas hold'em evening, 6 p.m. at Mission's End. Free to club members. Players do not risk their own cash, so take a few risks and you could win great prizes.

Wednesday
Summer reading program
Neil Bass from the Department of Natural Resources will visit the library at 10 a.m. to discuss the wildlife at Whiteman.

Laser tag
A teen center laser tag trip takes place 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The cost is \$15.

Thursday
Teen rafting trip
A mandatory meeting for all teens taking part in the July 24-28 rafting trip and their parents will be held at 6 p.m. at the teen center.

Coming up...
Leaded stained glass class
Christmas in July! Make a decorative snowflake ornament using leaded stained glass at the class 1-4 p.m. July 21 at arts and crafts. Sign up by noon Thursday.

Basic car inspection class
Learn how to perform a basic 21-point inspection on your vehicle, 2-4 p.m. July 21. The class costs \$5, sign up by noon Thursday.

Youth center pool party
Children and teens ages 6 to 18 can enjoy their own pool party, 6:30-9:30 p.m. July 21 at the base pool. Learn about the fit factor program and watch the fun of the Build-a-Boat event - or join in! The party is free.

Super-sized family social
The whole family is invited to the Friday social on July 21 at Mission's End. Starting at 5 p.m. there will be food and drinks specials, a super-sized buffet and lots of traditional games such as card, checkers, dominos and backgammon, which families can borrow for an evening of fun and competition.

Available now
Bouncy castles for rent
Make your child's birthday really special with a bouncy castle from outdoor recreation. There are two sizes available, 13ftx13ft and 15ftx15ft and the cost is \$75 per day. Outdoor recreation will set up the castle for on-base residents for \$50. Call 687-5565 to reserve.

Preschool enrollment
The child development center is beginning enrollment for its Fall part-day preschool program for 3- to 5-year-olds. The program will begin August 21. The fees will be determined by total family income. For more information, please call 687-5588.

July aerobics schedule
Pick up a new schedule from the fitness center for the latest free aerobics classes.

Pet supplies
Save on pet medications, toys, grooming equipment and other supplies by order-

Check out: www.whitemanservices.com
for facility information, events and the Services Connection magazine.

Customer feedback

Tell us how we're doing
@ <https://ice.disa.mil>

The 509th Services Squadron relies on you to let us know what we're doing well and perhaps not so well. Please help us exceed your expectations by providing customer feedback via ICE <https://ice.disa.mil> or filling out a comment card at any facility. We want to hear from you!

Movie Schedule

7 p.m. Friday, July 14
The Break Up PG-13

7 p.m. Saturday, July 15
The Omen R

Sunday, July 16 - Closed.

Adults: \$3.50 Children: \$1.75
Movie Recording Line: 687-5110
Movies subject to change due to availability.

ing through the Whiteman veterinary clinic. The clinic receives significant discounts on items available at pet stores. Call 687-2667 or stop by to see what you can save.

Family Child care news
FCC Orientation Class
Receive training to become a licensed family child care (FCC) provider on Whiteman. Providers with chronic health problems are accepted. The program needs providers who are willing to care for children during swing and evening shifts and children with special needs. Stop by the FCC office to pick up a registration package.

Base Residents
Quality child care for military families is an important concern. Guidelines in Air Force Instruction 34-276, Family Child Care Programs, requires anyone providing in-home care for 10 hours (total for all children in care) or more a week on a regular to be licensed. If you are currently unlicensed, you must cease care and apply for a family child care license. Call for more details.

Squadron telephone directory	
Combat Support Flight	
Fitness Center.....	687-5496
Library.....	687-5614
Ozark Inn.....	687-5469
Touch & Go.....	687-2700
Whiteman Inn.....	687-1844
Community Support Flight	
Arts and Crafts Center.....	687-5691
Auto Hobby Shop.....	687-5689
Bowling Center.....	687-5114
Outdoor Recreation.....	687-5565
Mission's End.....	687-4422
Golf Course.....	687-5572
Tickets and Travel.....	687-5565
Veterinary Clinic.....	687-2667
Family Member Support Flight	
Child Development Center.....	687-5588
Community Center.....	687-5617
Family Child Care.....	687-5590
Teen Center.....	687-5819
Youth Center.....	687-5586